Docket No. 56778 (70820)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

Y. Sasaki et al.

U.S.S.N.:

Not yet assigned

GROUP:

Unknown

FILED:

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EXAMINER: Unknown

(Express Mail Label No. EL933049726US

FOR:

PROCESS FOR PREPARING LH-RH DERIVATIVES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicants kindly request that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 15, and add new claim 18:

The process according to claim 13, wherein the LH-RH derivative 15. (Amended) protected with protective group(s) is represented by the formula 5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-Y-Leu-Arg(X)-Pro-Z wherein X indicates a protective group, Y indicates a residue selected from DLeu, DAla, DTrp, DSer(tBu), D2Nal and DHis (ImBzl) and Z indicates NH-C2H5 or Gly-NH2, respectively.

(New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the LH-RH derivative protected with protective group(s) is represented by the formula 5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-Y-Leu-Arg(X)-Pro-Z wherein X indicates a protective group, Y indicates a residue selected from DLeu, DAla, DTrp, DSer(tBu), D2Nal and DHis (ImBzl) and Z indicates NH-C2H5 or Gly-NH2, respectively.